

Dep. of State Briefing on Future Business Forecast

December 17, 2021







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Department of State Procurement Forecast Current Process

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Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
(OSDBU)

December 2021



Overview

- Data request and collection process
- Interface / technology used
 - Internal data inputs
 - External: industry output
- Challenges

Data Request and Collection Process

- Annual Action Memo from the Deputy Secretary for Management (D-MR) to all bureaus
- 2. Bureaus submit their acquisition forecast line items based on best information available (~3 weeks)
- Manual QA / data cleanup (OSDBU)
- Combined forecast published to website (OSDBU)

Input Tools



Instructions, FAQs, App



Lists

Data collection site / database



Custom App to ease data input



Multiple entries upload using standard format (data validation)

OSDBU: Forecast SharePoint landing page

Procurement Forecast Price, George L Director

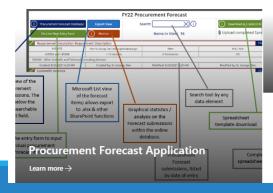
The Department must publish an annual forecast of opportunities, as mandated by 15 USC § 644.

The forecast is available to the public using this link,

The Department of State Forecast of Contracting Opportunities informs vendors of anticipated contracts offered by DOS for the current fiscal year. It is the policy of the Department to provide timely and accurate information to the public regarding DOS forecast of future prime contracting opportunities is which is made available to the public via the OSDBU website.

The Procurement Forecasting tool facilitates reporting, simplifies data entry, reduces errors, and enables bureaus to enter and update information directly.

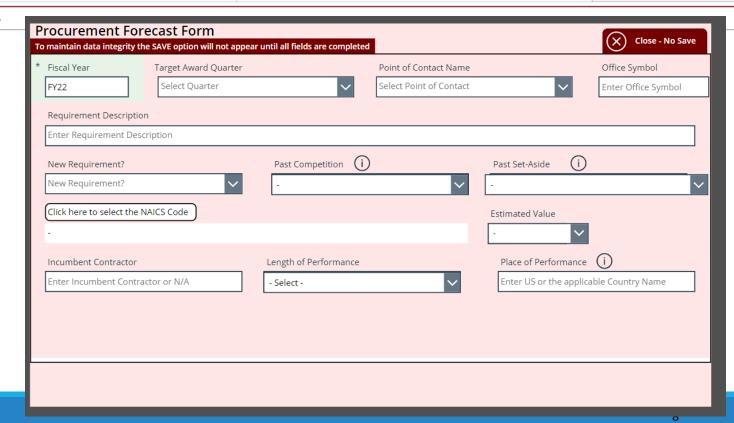
The Procurement Forecast Site is hosted by OPE in conjunction with OSDBU and AQM.







1



Export View

Search:

Download & Create Entries in Excel

On-Line New Entry Form

i Metrics

Items in View: 527

Upload completed Spreadsheet



In lieu of using this application to enter your FY22 Procurement Forecast you can download an Excel spreadsheet to your Downloads folder when on-site, in GO Virtual or using your EMD (GO Desktop). You cannot download files via GO Browser.

IMPORTANT: After downloading please <u>save the excel file to another location</u> as:

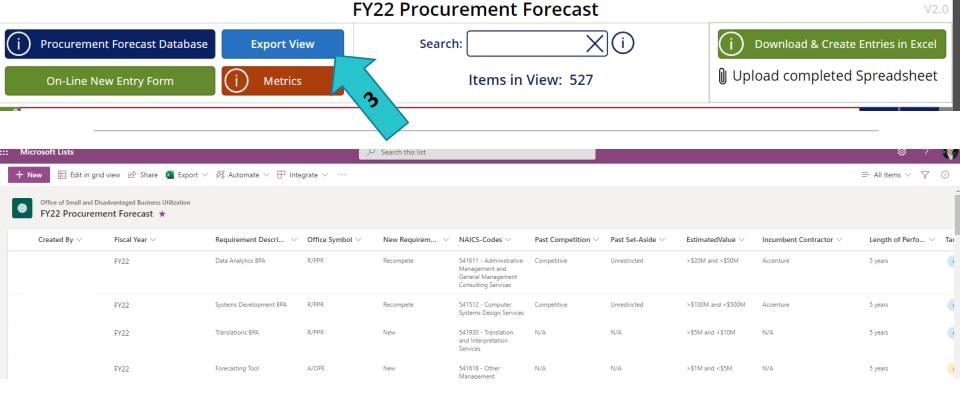
Bureau-Submitter's Username-FY22PF.xlsx, i.e. IRM-SmithAB-FY22PF.xlsx.

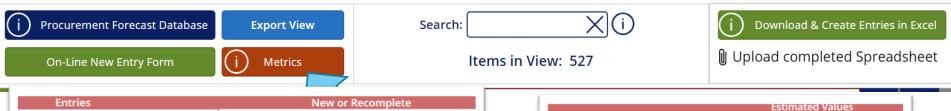
Open the spreadsheet using the **desktop version of Excel** and enter your FY22 Procurement Forecast data into the spreadsheet and then upload the completed spreadsheet using the **Upload completed Spreadsheet** link above.

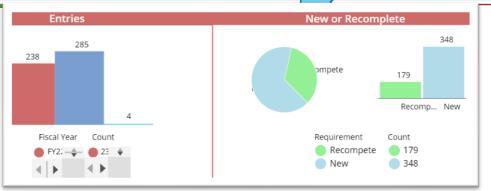
NOTE: Please <u>do not</u> enter the same submissions in both, this application and the spreadsheet. Some spreadsheet columns have a choice dropdown to maintain field data integrity. Please only enter selectable data in these columns so it can be effectively imported into the primary database.

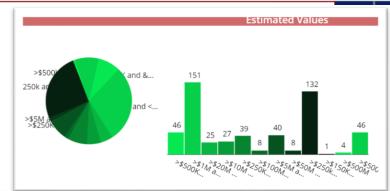
Your FY22 Procurement Forecast submissions will be reviewed and imported into the Procurement Forecast primary database asap.

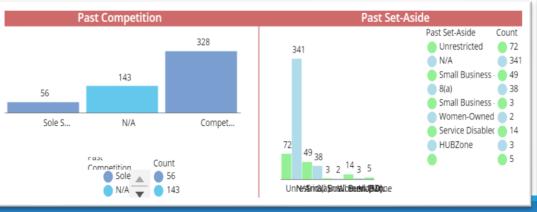
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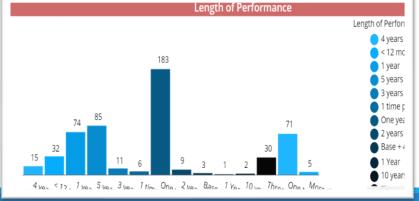












Public Law 100-656, the Business Opportunity Development Reform Act of 1988, amended the Small Business Act to place new emphasis on acquisition planning. The law requires agencies to compile and make available projections of contracting opportunities small and small disadvantaged firms may be able to perform.

In response to this requirement, the Department of State Forecast of Contract Opportunities includes projections of anticipated contract above the simplified acquisition threshold that small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses may be able to perform under direct contracts with the Government, or through subcontracting opportunities. This Department-wide forecast of contract-opportunities expands upon individual efforts already implemented at Department of State aimed at enhancing competition in contracting. The forecast consolidates anticipated procurements at various State Department acquisition activities.

The Forecast of Contract Opportunities is updated annually, in the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Department of State Procurement Forecast Fiscal Year 2022 (Updated 12/02/2021)

Department of State Procurement Forecast Fiscal Year 2021

Department of State Procurement Forecast Fiscal Year 2020

Results – Industry View





OSDBU Recommendations

Integrate with existing systems

- Budget (new requirements)
- Acquisition Planning (recompetes)

Facilitate dynamic, up-to-date reporting

- Real-time updates vs. static, annual report
- Evergreen information retains relevancy, usefulness

Impose accountability

- Bureaus should have consequences for missing responses
- New requirements not on the forecast must get visibility

Ensure accuracy, clarity of submissions

- Provide sufficient insight into actual requirements
- Content, data should match acquisition planning
- Listed POCs should be familiar with acquisition

Provide briefings to industry

- Scheduled throughout the year
- Include relevant SMEs



Office of the Procurement Executive



Acqusition Experience (Acq-X) for Stakeholders Future State



What if ...?

Imagine a DOS Industry Liaison Program of the Future that elevates the Acquisition Experience for our external stakeholders based on dedicated and integrated procurement planning that informs transparency and creates a data-rich environment. It would leverage cognitive tools to automate information-sharing, establish a virtual community to enable new ways of dialogue between Industry and Government, promote actionable thought leadership for procurement at the execution level, and focus equally on presolicitation and post-award success.

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It all starts with a *dynamic* and *collaborative* **Acquisition Planning Forecast System** (APFS)

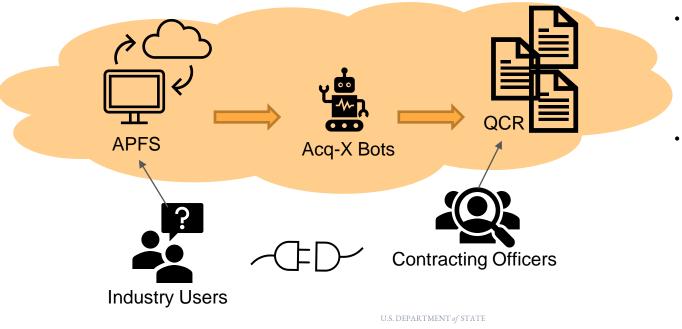


- Informed by annual Procurement Planning Conferences
- Provides for near real-time information access to procurement opportunities
- Entries are fluid vs. static and updated throughout the pre-solicitation life cycle
- Industry Partners are automatically notified when an update is made to a procurement opportunity





The interface between the APFS and QCR, powered by **AI bots**, enables a meaningful, automated, **exchange of information** between Industry and Government

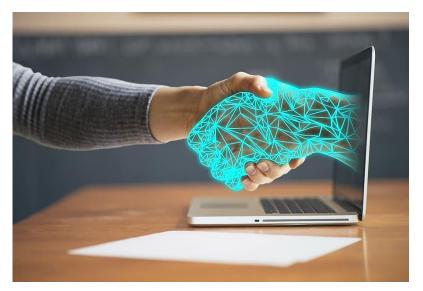


- Industry Partners can submit an electronic request for a status update of a procurement opportunity
- Acq-X Bots crawl the
 OPE Quad Chart
 Repository (QCR) on
 Sharepoint to return
 automated updates to the
 requester or notify the
 Contracting Officer if
 more information is
 needed on the APFS
 entry





Relationship-building and dialogue are promoted through an **online community platform** where Industry and Government can meet virtually to discuss DOS acquisition



- Brings together the entire DOS Acquisition Enterprise, to include COs, PMs, CORs, and Industry Partners, through one electronic medium
- Creates unique opportunities for Industry and Government to discuss procurement together to share ideas
- Elevates dialogue through new virtual communication tools (e.g., Wiki pages, Vlogs, Chat Tools)
- Provides a forum for Industry Partners to collaborate with each other to develop potential partnering opportunities





Crowd-sourcing is a routine way of pulsing our **stakeholder universe** for ways to optimize procurement activity and maximize mission outcomes



- Brings together the entire stakeholder universe to include Industry, Trade Associations, Academia, U.S. Citizens etc. to inform important procurements through ideation before the RFP is developed
- Allows a "safe space" for information-sharing and preserves the integrity of the procurement process
- Elevates dialogue through new virtual communication tools (e.g., Wiki pages, Vlogs, Chat Tools)
- Augments more traditional industry outreach efforts by focusing on pre-planning activities





We go beyond the Kick-off Meeting to start the **contractual relationship** off the right way through a **Contractor Onboarding Program** ...



- It's just as important to socialize a new company into the DOS environment as it is our own employees
- Provides a virtual "orientation" with useful information that a new company doing business with DOS will need to know to hit the ground running
- Helps to expedite contracting support for OPE customers





Including routine industry outreach activities such as Reverse Industry Days, Matchmaking Events, Product Demos, Vendor Expos etc.

•Acq-X Bots

•Online Community Platform

•Crowd-sourcing Toc'

Cognitive Procurement Technology Enablers Bureau/Office Procurement Planning Conferences Standard approach across domestic offices in 3rd quarter of each FY

 High-level milestones feed service level agreements between OPE and its customer base

 The OPE QCR will create source data to power Artificial Intelligence Bots which increase visibility into the near real-time status of procurement activity OPE
Procurement
Quad Chart
Repository

DOS Acquisition Planning Forecast System

 The DOS APFS is revamped to support a better Acquisition Experience for Stakeholders and moved to the cloud





The future is coming!

